



Tex Toler watches the Llano River rise, Friday, May 29, 2015, in Llano, Texas, after another round of heavy rain. Officials are closely monitoring the levels of rivers in Texas engorged by heavy rain last weekend.

(Jay Janner/Austin American-Statesman via AP)

Flooding Continues as Storms Stall Over Texas

ALLEN REED
Associated Press
DALLAS (AP) — Floodwaters submerged highways and flooded homes Friday in Texas as another round of heavy rain added to the damage inflicted by storms that have killed at least 23 people in the U.S. and left 13 missing.

The line of thunderstorms that stalled over Dallas dropped as much as 7 more inches overnight. That rainfall contributed to another death early Friday, when firefighters in a Dallas suburb said a man drowned in his truck after it was swept into a culvert. Houston-area authorities

recovered the bodies of two men who had been reported missing. The body of 87-year-old Jack Alter who was swept away when a boat attempting to rescue him from a bayou overturned was recovered from the Houston Ship Channel. The search for a missing

51-year-old man was called off Friday after the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service found a body on a southeast Texas beach on Friday that matched his description. The unidentified man and two others, who later escaped, were fishing in the Brazos River Thursday when they were

caught in the currents. The rain also seeped into homes and stranded hundreds of drivers, many of whom lingered along highways that were nearly gridlocked from the high water and abandoned vehicles.

Continued on Page 4

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Nigeria's new president pledges fight against Boko Haram



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, left, talks with newly inaugurated Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari, before the start of a formal meeting near Eagle Square in Abuja, Nigeria, Friday, May 29, 2015. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh, Pool)

MICHELLE FAUL
Associated Press
ABUJA, Nigeria (AP) — Ni-

geria's new president was sworn in on Friday and pledged to tackle Boko

Haram "head on," asserting the fight against the Islamic extremists wouldn't

be won until hundreds of schoolgirls abducted last year and other kidnapping victims were brought home alive.

Muhammadu Buhari's new administration won a signal of support from the United States, which indicated it was prepared to increase military aid.

The inauguration turned into a nationwide celebration by Nigerians welcoming their country's newly reinforced democracy after Buhari became the first candidate to defeat a sitting president at the polls since the end of military rule in 1999.

With dancing and the release of white doves symbolizing peace, Nigerians

hailed the handover of power in an African nation marked by superlatives: the most populous nation, the biggest oil producer, the largest economy.

Nigeria also confronts the most deadly conflict on the continent — the insurgency by Boko Haram that has killed more than 13,000 people and driven more than 1.5 million from their homes.

Blaming official bungling, negligence, complacency and collusion for allowing the Islamic extremists to grow into "a terrifying force," Buhari pledged to take on Nigeria's myriad problems. "We are going to tackle them head on," he declared.

"But we cannot claim to have defeated Boko Haram without rescuing the Chibok girls and all other innocent persons held hostage by insurgents," he said, referring to the hundreds of girls seized more than a year ago from their school in Chibok in north-eastern Borno state.

"This government will do all it can to rescue them alive."

The military has freed hundreds of captured women and children in recent weeks as it hemmed Boko Haram into its stronghold in the Sambisa Forest, but there has been no word of the schoolgirls whose abduction brought an international outcry.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry was the first foreign official to meet with Nigeria's new leader after the inauguration, accompanied by head of U.S. Africa Command, Gen. David M. Rodriguez. A senior State Department official said Washington was ready to increase military aid and could quickly send more advisers. □

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Obama: 'Handful of senators' blocking US Patriot Act

JIM KUHNHENN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP)—Blaming a “handful of senators” for stalled national security legislation, President Barack Obama said Friday that he has told Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and other senators that he expects them to take action swiftly to extend key Patriot Act provisions. Without action by midnight Sunday, a number of tools that permit law enforcement to pursue and investigate suspected terrorists will expire. Obama pinned responsibility directly on the Senate if something were to go awry. “I don’t want us to be in a situation in which for a certain period of time those authorities go away and suddenly we are dark,” he said. “And heaven forbid we’ve got a problem where we could have prevented a terrorist attack or apprehended someone who is engaged in dangerous activity but

we didn’t do so simply because of inaction in the Senate.”

Among the provisions that would expire is the National Security Agency’s ability to search and amass Americans’ phone records. The most prominent critic of the legislation is Republican Sen. Rand Paul, a Republican presidential contender. In an interview Friday between campaign stops in South Carolina, Paul said voters are encouraging him to continue fighting the government’s bulk collection programs. McConnell, a Republican, is calling the Senate back into session on Sunday, just hours before the midnight deadline. But it’s not clear lawmakers will have any new solution.

Obama argued that changes made in the Patriot Act would provide greater civil liberties protections while retaining essential law enforcement tools. He said many of the



President Barack Obama meets with Attorney General Loretta Lynch in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, Friday, May 29, 2015. The said a “handful of senators” are the only thing standing in the way of an extension of key Patriot Act provisions before they expire at midnight Sunday.
(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

authorities that would expire are non-controversial, such as the use of so-called “roving wiretaps” that track suspects through their cell phone usage.

“The only thing that is standing in the way is a handful of senators who are resisting these reforms despite law enforcement and the (intelligence community)

saying ‘let’s go ahead and get this done,’” he said as he wrapped up an Oval Office meeting with Attorney General Loretta Lynch. □

White House vow to veto fishing law changes sparks fight

PATRICK WHITTLE
Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — A White House pledge to veto proposed changes to federal fishing laws has divided fishermen over whether the rule changes should be saved or scrapped.

U.S. Rep. Don Young, R-Alaska, has proposed a bill to change the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to provide fishery managers with more flexibility in rebuilding fish stocks. The bill includes a provision that

fishery regulators should be able to consider the “economic needs of the fishing communities” in setting annual catch limits.

The White House has said the administration “strongly opposes” the changes and President Barack Obama’s senior advisers would recommend a veto if the bill to authorize them passes. White House officials said Young’s changes would undermine efforts to prevent overfishing and “impose arbitrary and unnecessary requirements that would harm the envi-

ronment and the economy.”

The criticism has sparked heated debate among fishermen, some of whom believe the bill would give regional management councils more flexibility when they set the rules for fishermen. Others celebrated the veto promise and said they fear Young’s bill would undo years of work to rebuild fish stocks under the current Magnuson-Stevens Act.

David Goethel, a Hampton, New Hampshire-based fisherman of species such

as cod and haddock, said the threat of a veto is premature and a “very poor message” to send to fishermen who are struggling with tough catch quotas. He said Young’s proposal is “common sense in fisheries management” and deserves a hard look. Goethel said Young’s proposal could help Northeastern regional managers rebuild cod while allowing fishermen to still seek similar species such as haddock and pollock.

“You can manage around that problem,” Goethel

said. “You don’t crank down the Gulf of Maine to the point where you can’t leave the pier.”

But Charlie Witek, a West Babylon, New York, fisherman who sits on New York’s Marine Resources Advisory Council, lauded the veto call. The president is “putting brakes on legislation that was rapidly headed in a bad direction and giving everyone some breathing space,” he said.

The House of Representatives is expected to debate and possibly vote on the bill early next week. □

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Flooding continues as storms stall over Texas

Continued from front

Fire rescue crews responded to about 260 calls that included trapped vehicles and accidents, authorities said.

Exacerbating the problem for first-responders are people who have been going around barricades to take pictures of the floodwaters, said Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins. He said those people are endangering themselves and stretching thin the first responders' resources.

"Floodwaters are never safe to play around, take a picture around, walk around," Jenkins said. "We don't need any more loss of life."

Jenkins also said he is considering issuing evacuation orders for Dallas-area neighborhoods depending on the latest flood projections.

The Colorado River in Wharton and the Brazos



Motorists commute across Interstate 30, right, over a swollen Trinity River west of downtown Dallas, Friday, May 29, 2015. Floodwaters submerged Texas highways and threatened more homes Friday after another round of heavy rain added to the damage inflicted by storms.

(AP Photo/Brandon Wade)

and San Jacinto rivers near Houston were the main focus of concern as floodwaters moved from North and Central Texas downstream toward the Gulf of Mexico. Floodwater was creeping into neighborhoods in the suburban Houston city of

Kingwood near the swollen San Jacinto River, where residents were keeping a close eye on water levels. "Everybody's worried about it," James Simms said from his second-story balcony, looking down at a flood that had reached

his garage. "Those people who are going to leave are already gone. There's others like us who are going to wait until it's mandatory." Teams continued to search through debris piles along rivers. Bodies found on Thursday raised the con-

firmed death toll to at least 27, including storm victims from Oklahoma. A storm system last weekend that prompted the initial flooding also killed 14 people in the northern Mexico when a twister hit the border town of Ciudad Acuna.

The Brazos River, which had been receding, rose above flood stage again Friday in Parker County, west of Fort Worth, and was expected to climb higher with the planned opening of the flood gates at Possum Kingdom Lake upstream. People in about 250 homes near the river were asked to voluntarily evacuate.

With the water moving rapidly down the river, serious flooding was expected in the downstream communities of Simonton and Thompsons. Fort Bend County Sheriff Troy Nehls said some residents of Simonton had already been asked to leave. □

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Pentagon: Anthrax shipments broader than first thought

BRADY McCOMBS
ROBERT BURNS
Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon said Friday that the Army's mistaken shipments of live anthrax to research laboratories were more widespread than it initially reported, prompting the Defense Department's second-ranking official to order a thorough review.

In a statement issued Friday evening, the department said 24 laboratories in 11 states and two foreign countries — South Korea and Australia — are believed to have received suspect anthrax samples. The broadening scope of the problem suggests more extensive flaws in procedures used by the Army's

Dugway Proving Ground in Utah to ensure that anthrax samples were made fully inert before shipping them to labs. Deputy Defense Secretary Bob Work on Friday ordered a comprehensive review of laboratory procedures associated with inactivating anthrax.

Dugway, in a desolate stretch of the Utah desert, has been testing chemical weapons since it opened in 1942.

Earlier Friday, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said suspect samples from Dugway had been sent to 18 labs in nine U.S. states and a military base in South Korea. Later, the Pentagon said the Army may have mistakenly sent live anthrax to a laboratory in Australia in

2008. CDC spokeswoman Kristen Nordlund said the agency

is testing to see which anthrax samples were live. The results are coming in slowly,

she said, and the first full set of findings isn't expected until next week. □



Referee Module No. 2 of the Whole System Live Agent Test at Dugway Proving Ground in Dugway, Utah. The Pentagon said Friday that the Army's mistaken shipments of live anthrax to research laboratories were more widespread than it initially reported.

(Kristin Murphy/The Deseret News via AP)

Five pilots report encounters with lasers over New York, New Jersey

MICHAEL BALSAMO
Associated Press
FARMINGDALE, N.Y. (AP) — Local and federal law enforcement officials launched an investigation Friday after five commercial airline pilots reported that green lasers were pointed at their planes as they flew over New York and New Jersey.

The Federal Aviation Administration said four pilots reported a green laser illuminating their aircraft in flight at about 8,000 feet over Long Island between 9:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Thursday. The pilots were flying American Airlines, Shuttle America and Delta planes. Another report involved a green laser beamed at a Sun Country Airlines plane at 11:30 p.m., about 14 miles southwest of John F. Kennedy International Airport, the FAA said.

No injuries were reported

in any of the incidents. Representatives for Delta and American Airlines said their flights landed safely and the pilots continued on their trips after reporting the laser episodes to air traffic controllers.

Sen. Charles Schumer told The Associated Press that investigators believe one person was responsible for the incidents over Long Island and that the person may have been in a park. It is a federal crime to point a laser at a plane, and Schumer said perpetrators sometimes station themselves in parks to avoid detection.

The Democrat from New York said Nassau County police, the FBI and the area's Joint Terrorism Task Force launched a joint investigation, but there appears to be no indication the episode was terrorism-related. □

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Payments by Hastert linked to report of sexual abuse

MICHAEL D. SHEAR
 MICHAEL S. SCHMIDT
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 WASHINGTON - J. Dennis Hastert, the former speaker of the House of Representatives, was paying a man to not say publicly that Hastert had sexually abused him decades ago, according to two people briefed on the evidence uncovered in an FBI investigation into the payments.
 Federal prosecutors on Thursday announced the indictment of Hastert on allegations that he made cash withdrawals designed to hide those payments and for lying to federal authorities about the purpose of the withdrawals.
 The man - who was not iden-

tified in court papers - told the FBI that he had been inappropriately touched by Hastert when Hastert was a high school teacher and wrestling coach, the two people said Friday. The people briefed on the investigation spoke on the condition of anonymity because they did not want to be identified discussing a federal investigation. The FBI declined to comment.
 It was not clear when the alleged behavior occurred. But according to court documents, Hastert was a high school teacher and coach in Yorkville, Illinois, from 1965 to 1981. The FBI was not able to substantiate the allegations beyond

the man's statements. Federal authorities unsealed an indictment of Hastert on Thursday, although it skirted the issue of what Hastert had done to the man that led to the payments.
 The indictment said that in 2010, the man met with Hastert several times, and that at one of those meetings Hastert agreed to pay him \$3.5 million "in order to compensate for and conceal his prior misconduct against" the man.
 The indictment stunned Hastert's friends and former Capitol Hill colleagues, who said Friday morning that they were struggling to make sense of the federal charges against him.



Former House Speaker Dennis Hastert is seen in Aurora, Ill. Hastert was allegedly paying a man to not say publicly that he had sexually abused him decades ago, according to two people briefed on the evidence uncovered in an FBI investigation into the payments.

(AP Photo/M. Spencer Green)

"In my dealings with Denny, he was always straight up, aboveboard and never even close to crossing the line on anything," said Tom Davis, who represented Virginia as a Republican House member.
 Kim Nerheim, a spokes-

woman for the U.S. attorney's office, said Friday that Hastert's case had been assigned to Judge Thomas M. Durkin of U.S. District Court, who will schedule an arraignment for the former speaker, perhaps as early as next week.

Silk Road's founder gets life for creating online drug site

LARRY NEUMEISTER
JAKE PEARSON
Associated Press
NEW YORK (AP) — A San Francisco man who created the underground drug-selling website Silk Road was sentenced Friday to life in prison by a judge who cited six deaths from drugs bought on his site and five people he tried to have killed. U.S. District Judge Katherine Forrest told 31-year-old Ross Ulbricht he was a criminal even though he doesn't fit the typical profile — he has two collegiate degrees — and she brushed aside his efforts to characterize the business as merely a big

mistake.
 "It was a carefully planned life's work. It was your opus," she said. "You are no better a person than any other drug dealer." Ulbricht's 2013 arrest shut down what prosecutors described as an unprecedented one-stop online shopping mall where the supply of drugs was virtually limitless, enabling nearly 4,000 drug dealers to expand their markets from the sidewalk to cyberspace, selling drugs on a never-before-seen scale to more than 100,000 buyers in markets stretching from Argentina to Australia, from the United States to Ukraine.

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US presses Europeans at meeting to solve Greek crisis

DAVID McHUGH

Associated Press

DRESDEN, Germany (AP) —

Finance ministers from the Group of Seven wealthy democracies heard a sharp call from U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew to find agreement on more financial help for Greece.

Lew said that further delaying Europe's six-month old talks with Greece was "courting an accident" — such as a Greek default or messy exit from the euro, which could have unpredictable effects on the global and European economies.

Lew said Friday at the end of meetings in Dresden, Germany, that "too much time has been spent unproductively and the challenge is to treat this week

as a week in which there has to be progress."

Greece faces large debt repayments in June on its bailout loans from the International Monetary Fund. Despite two bailouts totaling 240 billion euros from the IMF and other countries that use the euro currency, the country has not been able to repair its finances and economy enough to pay its bills.

It faces a large payment on June 5, one of four due during the month.

Lew said that Greece needed "to make some tough decisions" on the economic reforms that are being asked in return for the money. "It has to be based on actions that Greece takes," Lew said. "I think that's the only way



Jacob J. Lew, US Secretary of the Treasury, listens to questions during a press conference at the G7 Finance Ministers meeting in Dresden, eastern Germany, Friday, May 29, 2015.

(AP Photo/Jens Meyer)

Greece will see what kind of flexibility they're able to get." Finance ministers and central bankers from the Group of Seven, or G-7, on Friday were wrapping up three days of debate and discussion, where the official topic was not Greece

but how to get the global recovery moving faster.

Officials wrestled over concerns that growth still faces risks ranging from low investment to lagging efforts to implement pro-business policies. They also talked about joint efforts to pre-

vent multinational corporations from avoiding taxes.

Officials from host country Germany have emphasized that efforts to spur growth should not involve adding more debt through government budget deficits. □

Merkel:

Germany will be 'constructive partner' in EU reform

DAVID RISING

Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) German

Chancellor Angela Merkel sounded a conciliatory note Friday on Britain's efforts to renegotiate its relationship with the European Union, as Prime Minister David Cameron wrapped up a two-day four country trip to press his case for concessions.

Merkel, who is certain to play a central role in the negotiations, described her talks with Cameron as "constructive and friendly," and said they had begun talking about specifics and what could be done to accommodate Britain's wishes.

"Where there's a will, there's a way," she said.

"And we are going to pursue matters on these lines." Cameron's newly elected Conservative government has promised to hold a referendum by the end of 2017 on whether Britain should remain within the EU. Ahead of that vote, he's looking to get concessions on the terms of Britain's membership. Merkel said it was Germany's "clear hope the British people will decide to see Britain remain in the European Union."

Cameron's bid to lead profound changes in the bloc is a key test for his leadership in the next five years.

The stakes are high: If he doesn't secure reforms that Britons are happy

with, Britain could vote to leave the EU. It's not yet clear how much support he could secure among his European counterparts. Some EU leaders have acknowledged they share some of Cameron's concerns, but have insisted that allowing people to travel and work freely across the EU's 28 nations remains a cornerstone of their policies.

Cameron sounded optimistic following his talks with Merkel, saying the meeting "was an opportunity to really get down to business and work through each issue."

He said there's "no magic big solution" but said he was confident one could be worked out. □

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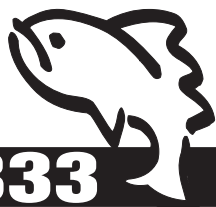


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Death toll from Baghdad hotel bombings rises to 15

SAMEER N. YACCOUB
Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — The death toll from car bombs that targeted two prominent hotels in Baghdad a day earlier rose to 15 people, with another 42 wounded, Iraqi officials said Friday, as the Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the attack.

Two separate car bombs went off late Thursday in the parking lots of the Cristal, formerly Sheraton, and Babil hotels. Officials initially said 10 people were killed and 27 wounded, but the casualty figures rose overnight.

The two explosions shattered the windows of the recently renovated hotels

and destroyed several cars. Baghdad's top hotels are usually crowded on Thursday nights with people attending weddings and parties. The ability of extremists to target heavily secured buildings in the heart of the capital brutally underscored the city's lingering vulnerability. The IS group has been able to carry out regular attacks in and around Baghdad, mainly targeting the security forces and the country's Shiite majority, while battling Iraqi forces on multiple fronts elsewhere in the country. Police and hospital officials said a roadside bomb hit a commuter bus in eastern Baghdad on Friday, killing three passengers and



Civilians and security forces inspect the aftermath of a car bomb attack in the parking lot of Babylon hotel in Baghdad, Iraq, Friday, May 29, 2015. Two separate car bombs inside parking lots of two downtown hotels have killed and wounded civilians late Thursday, authorities said.

(AP Photo/Hadi Mizban)

wounding 10.

Police said the two hotel bombs were detonated by remote control and that a

third car bomb near the Babil Hotel was discovered and defused early Friday. A police officer blamed

the infiltration on the negligence of the hotel guards and the weak security measures adopted by police in Baghdad.

Sameer al-Shwaili, a spokesman for government's Anti-Terrorism Apparatus, said that more attacks on Baghdad are expected as military operations continue in an effort to drive out IS militants from the Sunni-majority provinces of Anbar and Salahuddin.

"The situation is directly related to operations in Anbar, and operations in Tikrit. Iraq is in a state of war and what happened in Baghdad is a product of that war," al-Shwaili told The Associated Press in a telephone interview. □

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IS claims suicide bombing on Shiite mosque in Saudi, 4 dead

A. AL-SHIHRI

Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)

— A suicide bomber disguised as a woman blew himself up in the parking lot of a Shiite mosque during Friday prayers, killing four people in the second such attack in as many weeks claimed by the Islamic State group. The latest attack and a suicide bombing at a Shiite mosque that killed 21 people last Friday appeared aimed at fanning sectarianism and destabilizing the kingdom. Both attacks took place in

the oil-rich east, which has a sizable Shiite community that has long complained of discrimination.

The Islamic State group views Shiites as apostates deserving of death and also seeks the overthrow of the Saudi monarchy, which it considers corrupt and illegitimate.

Saudi Arabia had vowed to crack down on the extremists after last week's bombing, and authorities appeared keen to claim credit for preventing the bomber from entering the Imam Hussein mosque, the



Burnt out cars are seen as investigators collect evidence, in the aftermath of a suicide bomb outside the Imam Hussein mosque in the port city of Dammam, Saudi Arabia, Friday, May 29, 2015. A suicide bomber blew himself up in the parking lot of a Shiite mosque in eastern Saudi Arabia during Friday prayers, killing four people in the second such attack in as many weeks claimed by the Islamic State group.

(Saudi Television via AP)

only Shiite mosque in the port city of Dammam. The state-run Saudi Press Agency said security guards halted a car in the parking lot and that the bomber

detonated his explosives as they approached.

Witnesses said, however, that worshippers had taken their own security measures, including setting up

checkpoints, and that young men had detected the bomber and chased him down, leading him to set off the explosion. It was unclear if the bomber was among the four dead.

A security official told The Associated Press that the attacker had disguised himself in the black all-encompassing garments worn by women in Saudi Arabia and blew himself up after being stopped by security guards. He insisted on anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

Mohammed Idris, a worshipper who witnessed the attack, told the AP by telephone that the suicide bomber attempted to enter the mosque but was chased by young men, who had set up checkpoints at the entrance. □

IS affiliate in Libya takes civilian airport

Associated Press

BENGHAZI, Libya (AP)

— Libya's Islamic State affiliate took control of a civilian air base in the central city of Sirte, a militia spokesman and an IS statement said, in the latest gains by the extremist group exploiting Libya's lingering chaos. The takeover of the al-Qardabiya air base occurred when a militia dispatched to battle the Islamic militants, who already control of much of Sirte, withdrew. According to Mohammed al-Shamia, spokesman for the so-called 166 Battalion militia, his force retreated after calls for reinforcements from Tripoli went unheeded.

Nearly four years after the ouster of longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi, Libya is consumed by chaos. The country's elected parliament and government were forced to relocate outside the capital to the far eastern cities of Tobruk and Bayda after militias linked to Islamist factions took over Tripoli last year. The 166 Battalion militia answers to the umbrella group of Islamist-linked militias that control the capital, Tripoli.

The Tripoli-based factions and militias have so far been hesitant to get into armed confrontation with the Islamic State affiliate — which has issued sev-

eral statements describing them as "infidels" and urging their fighters to defect. A statement posted by the Islamic State affiliate said the militant group seized the air base along with Gadhafi-era mega-project known as the Great Man Made River. In addition to Sirte, the Islamic State group controls the eastern city of Darnah. In recent months, the IS militants have captured and beheaded dozens of Christian laborers and migrants, including Egyptians and Ethiopians. They have attacked oil fields while trying to expand their territory to the east of Sirte but were repelled by local fighters. □

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Chinese weaponry spotted on artificial island, US says



An anti-surface gunnery is fired from China's Navy missile frigate Yulin during the "Exercise Maritime Cooperation 2015" by Singapore and Chinese navies in the South China Sea. (Bao Xuelin/Xinhua via AP)

L. C. BALDOR
M. PENNINGTON
Associated Press
SINGAPORE (AP) — U.S. surveillance detected two large artillery vehicles on one of the artificial islands that China is creating in

the South China Sea, U.S. officials said Friday, heightening concerns that Beijing could use the land reclamation projects for military purposes. The revelation came as Defense Secretary Ash Carter was in the region for an international security summit in Singapore where he is expected to demand anew that China and other nations halt all such projects. While scolding China

for aggression, Carter is not expected to offer any indication of what the U.S. might do if the projects proceed. The weaponry was discovered at least several weeks ago, and two U.S. officials who are familiar with intelligence about the vehicles say they have been removed. The officials weren't authorized to discuss the intelligence and spoke only on condition of anonymity.

The Pentagon would not release any photos to support its contention that the vehicles were there. China's assertive behavior in the South China Sea has become an increasingly sore point in relations with the United States, even as President Barack Obama and China's President Xi Jinping have sought to deepen cooperation in other areas, such as climate change. □

Japan, EU agree to improve defense and economic ties

MARI YAMAGUCHI
Associated Press
TOKYO (AP) — Japanese and European leaders agreed Friday to step up defense and economic ties, and expressed concern about rising tensions in the South China Sea. European Council President Donald Tusk and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker welcomed Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's push to allow Japan's military a greater international role. After its defeat in World War II, Japan renounced war under its U.S.-drafted constitution that essentially limits the use of force to self-defense. Earlier this month, the Cabinet endorsed a set of defense bills that would allow the military to operate under a broader definition of self-defense and play a greater role internationally, a plan that has split public opinion. The three leaders ex-

pressed concern about rising territorial tensions in the South China and East China seas, and stressed the importance of the rule of law and peaceful solutions to maritime disputes. "We continue to observe the situation in the East and South China Sea and are concerned by any unilateral actions that change the status quo and increase tensions," they said in a joint statement. "Mindful of the uncertainties in the regional security environment, we condemn all violations of international law and of the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity of states." China has been creating several artificial islands in areas it claims in the South China Sea. U.S. officials said Friday that two large artillery vehicles were detected on one of the islands, furthering concerns that China may plan to use the islands for military purposes. □

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White House formally removes Cuba from US terror list



This coastal view of Havana, Cuba shows the United States Interests Section diplomatic mission, the third tall building from the right. On Friday, May 29 the Obama administration formally removed Cuba from a U.S. terrorism blacklist as part of the process of normalizing relations between the Cold War foes.
(AP Photo/Desmond Boylan)

A. RODRIGUEZ

M. LEE

Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — The Obama administration on Friday formally removed Cuba from a U.S. terrorism blacklist, a decision hailed in Cuba as the healing of a decades-old wound and an important step toward normalizing relations between the Cold War foes.

Secretary of State John Kerry signed off on rescinding Cuba's "state sponsor of terrorism" designation exactly 45 days after the Obama administration informed Congress of

its intent to do so on April 14. Lawmakers had that amount of time to weigh in and try to block the move, but did not do so.

"The 45-day congressional pre-notification period has expired, and the secretary of state has made the final decision to rescind Cuba's designation as a state sponsor of terrorism, effective today, May 29, 2015," the State Department said in a statement.

"While the United States has significant concerns and disagreements with a wide range of Cuba's policies and actions, these fall outside the criteria relevant to the rescission of a state sponsor of terrorism designation," the statement said.

The step comes as officials from the two countries continue to hash out details of restoring full diplomatic relations, including opening embassies in Washington and Havana and returning ambassadors to the two countries for the first time since the U.S. severed diplomatic relations with the island in January 1961. The removal of Cuba from the terrorism list had been a key Cuban demand.

The Cold War-era designation was levied mainly for Cuba's support of leftist guerrillas around the world and isolated the communist island from much of the world financial system because banks fear repercussions from doing business with designated countries. Even Cuba's Interests Section in Washington lost its bank in the United States, forcing it to deal in cash until it found a new banker this month.

"We welcome today's announcement by the Secretary of State, which is another step forward to-

ward a more normal and productive relationship between the United States and the Cuban people," a White House blog post said Friday.

"For 55 years, we tried using isolation to bring about change in Cuba," it said. "But by isolating Cuba from the United States, we isolated the United States from the Cuban people and, increasingly, the rest of the world. Through this new approach of engagement, we are finally in a position to advance our interests while simultaneously improving the lives of the Cuba people."

The terror list was a particularly charged issue for Cuba because of the U.S. history of supporting exile groups responsible for attacks on the island, including the 1976 bombing of a Cuban passenger flight from Barbados that killed 73 people aboard. The attack was linked to Cuban exiles with ties to U.S.-backed anti-Castro groups and both men accused of masterminding the crime took shelter in Florida, where one, Luis Posada Carriles, currently lives.

"I think this could be a positive act that adds to hope and understanding and can help the negotiations between Cuba and the United States," said director Juan Carlos Cremata, who lost his father in the 1976 bombing.

"It's a list we never should have been on," said Ileana Alfonso, 57, who also lost her father in the attack. Still, top U.S. Republicans criticized the move, with House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio saying that the Obama administration had "handed the Castro regime a significant political win in return for nothing." □



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PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring several very nice families who are loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba, at the Playa Linda Beach Resort, La Cabana Beach Resort, and Aruba Beach Club, as Distinguished Visitors and Ambassadors of Goodwill! The symbolic honorary titles are presented in the name of the Min-

ister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 and 20-to-34 consecutive years. The honorees were Mr. Peter and Mrs. Susan Roemer, Mr. Mike and Mrs. Theresa Hapes, and Mr. Roger and Mrs. Diane West. The honorees love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the weather, the beaches and the restaurants. They all agree



Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa Awarded 3 Tripadvisor Certificates of Excellence

EAGLE BEACH - Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa proudly announces that it has received a TripAdvisor® Certificate of Excellence award. The resort has been recognized as a Top Performing as Reviewed by Travellers on the World's Largest Travel Site. Now in its fifth year, the award celebrates excellence in hospitality and is given only to

establishments that consistently achieve great traveler reviews on TripAdvisor.

In addition the fine dining restaurants of Manchebo French Steakhouse and Ike's Bistro also won the Certificate of Excellence award 2015.

French Steakhouse is known for many years for its fine U.S cut steaks while



listening to live piano music. Ike's Bistro boasts a delicious menu of the chef's specialties.

While Mediterranean at heart, it is inspired by Caribbean ingredients and the chef's passion for avant-garde fusion ideas.

"Winning the TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence is a true source of pride for the entire team at Manchebo and we'd like to thank all of our guests who took the time to complete a review on TripAdvisor," said Edgar Roelofs the General Manager of the resort. "There is no greater seal of approval than being recognized by our valued guests. With the TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence based on customer reviews, the accolade is a remarkable vote of confidence to our business and our continued commitment to excellence."

Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa offers the ultimate vacation experience in the Caribbean. The 2-story boutique resort is located on

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Caribbean-Balinese Spa on the beach is the place for healing massages delivered in a beachfront gazebo and beachside Yoga - & Pilates classes. The resort is just 10 minutes away from downtown Oranjestad, Aruba's capital. Contact: Carla van Loenen, Sales & Market-



décor. Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa features 4 a-la-carte restaurants including the French Steakhouse, Ike's Bistro, Omakase Sushi Bar and the casual beachside Pega-Pega Cafe & Beach Bar. Spa del Sol, a

ing Manager, Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa, J.E. Irausquin Boulevard 55, Eagle Beach, Phone (297) 582 3444, Fax (297) 583 3589, Email marketing@manchebo.com | www.manchebo.com □

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Loyal Visitors Honored at the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort!



PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba at the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort as Distinguished Visitors and Ambassadors of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary titles are presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 and 20-to-34 consecutive years. The honorees were Mr.

Stephen and Mrs. Kathleen Narbonne from Braintree, Massachusetts, Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Mary Ann Langone from Hawley, Pennsylvania, Mr. David and Mrs. Carol Esdale from Albrightsville Pennsylvania, Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Diane Santoro from Poinciana, Florida, and the ladies Mrs. Lorraine Brennan from Braintree, Massachusetts, Mrs. Sheila Wilson from Quincy, Massachusetts, and Mrs. Sheryl Williams from Stoughton, Massachusetts. All the



honorees are loyal members of the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the weather, the beaches, the restaurants and the casinos. They say Aruba feels like a second home where the people are like family to them, and that the Divi Phoenix is their 'home away from home.' The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Avril Culley and Mr. Gerrit Griffith GM representing the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort. □



Alhambra Casino Employee Awards Ceremony



Alhambra
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The Corporate and Management Teams of the Alhambra Casino would like to congratulate all Loyal Employees with their achievements.

For the yearly and highly appreciated Alhambra Employee Award Ceremony, the following leaders: Susan Varnes, Chief Operating Officer, Lee Ann Hunter, Chief Financial Officer and Jeff Pruzinowski, Vice President Gaming, especially flew in from the States to show their appreciation towards the jubilees and the large "perfect attendance" group. Having such a large group of employees with perfect attendance showing loyalty to the company and so many employees staying for long periods of time really shows that the Alhambra Casino treats their employees' right! The lunch event, opened by the lovely MC Annie Dirks, Sales & Marketing Manager, was celebrated with live music by "the Emgeeband" and last but not least the buffet was out of this world. A huge congratulations, from the entire Aruba Today team, goes out to the Alhambra Employees!



Anniversary Awards

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Mozes Boekhoudt
Angela Gooijla
John Henriquez
Yolanda Henriquez
Jorge Jacquin
Robert Guandus
Diane Vrolijk

10 Years

Ursula Abbath
Arturo Anjine
Domingo Boekhoudt
Sandra Dirks
Ina Lake
Nelson Lozano
Junior Maduro
Rolando Maduro
Mario Stede
Peter Van Boekel

15 Years

Marina Kock
Janine Pascal

20 Years

Mario Croes
Loreta Dirks
Mayra De Freitas
Jairo Poesch

25 Years

Susan Celaine
Antonio Jermin

30 Years

Sandra Croes
Judith Ras
Waldia Reemmet
Rodrick Schlachter
Nereida Whitfield

Perfect Attendance

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Rafael Barrera
Roland Christaans
Mario Croes
Sandra Croes
Glenn D'Aguiar
Mayra De Freitas
Sandra Dirks
Loreta Dirks
Patrick Figaroa
Mike Flanegin
Jane Geerman
Haidee Godoy
Angela Gooijla
Emilio Growell
Rudolf Helder
Anice Joller
Antonio Jermin
Arnold Kalkboom
Nancy Kelly

Omar Kelly
Ronald Kelly
Raymond Kerpens
Leticia Kock
Marina Kock
Willrido Koolman
Brunilda Kuythoff
Ludwina Lampkin
Evan Levington
Carlos Maduro
Junior Maduro
Rolando Maduro
Wilbert Maduro
Edward Mansell
Olga Narain
Maurys Odor
Jairo Poesch
Janine Pascal
Kania Perez
Oscar Pietersz

Robert Guandus
Antonio Quant
Franje Quant
Junior Rafini
Waldia Reemmet
Dannie Remy
Glenda Ridderstap
Julissa Rijk
Mario Schwengle
Rudolf Schwengle
Mario Stede
Alberto Tromp
Claverina Tromp
Lubeychica Troff
Diane Vrolijk
Jonathan Wells
Gilbert Werner
Roberto Wiver
Nereida Whitfield
Altagracia Zievinger





Spieth in contention after rain alters course at Nelson

SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Sports Writer

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Jordan Spieth wasn't sure what par was at his hometown AT&T Byron Nelson and thinks it actually might have helped him through some frustrating early holes.

There's a reason the Masters champion was uncertain — overnight rain turned one of the signature par 4s at the saturated TPC Four Seasons into a pitch-and-putt par 3 at 105 yards for the second round Friday.

Spieth and every other early finisher within three shots of clubhouse leader Jon Curran turned in a birdie 2, and Gary Woodland had a hole-in-one when it was still possible that the easy wedge over a pond would play as a par 4. Tour officials later made the switch. "I was able to fire at more pins, not really worry about anybody else," said Spieth, who shot 64 — 5 under because par became 69 to put him at 6 under for the tournament. "Really actually helped because I didn't know what score I was at when it's a par 4, 4 par, par 3, don't really know what it's at."

Curran shot 63 and was at 9-under 130 with the two-round par total at 139 instead of 140, with several contenders unlikely to finish the round because of a three-hour delay at the start. Cameron Percy was



Jordan Spieth watches his tee shot shot on the 13th hole during the second round of the Byron Nelson golf tournament, Friday, May 29, 2015, in Irving, Texas.

Associated Press

a shot back after an eagle at the par-5 seventh for a 64.

Defending champion Brendon Todd shot 68 and was 1 over for the tournament, unlikely to make the cut. The fairway at the normally 406-yard 14th was deemed unplayable in the landing area after 5 inches of rain fell starting about midnight, pushing the total to about 17 inches in less than three weeks at the Four Seasons course. Texas officials have declared May the wettest month in the state's history.

Muddy footprints marked the area where a dip in the fairway funneled down to a rain-swollen canal off to the right. Standing water covered the ground under some trees, about the same spot where Spieth chipped out in Thursday's first round and ended up with a bogey.

The temporary tee box was on the fairway side of a pond that wraps around the left side of the green. Tour officials believe it was the first such alteration since the 2005 WGC-Match

Play Championship, when flooding at La Costa in Carlsbad, California, temporarily turned a 467-yard par 4 into a 162-yard par 3. "It was really tricky," said the 21-year-old Spieth, who birdied his final three holes at Nos. 7-9. "We get up there and it's 105 yards, but it's off a steep upslope and really muddy. I don't think we'll see that, if ever, again, something like that." Curran, a 28-year-old rookie looking for his first PGA Tour win, shot 29 starting on the back nine, with the

same boost as others on the 300-yard head start at 14. He had bogeys on the first and sixth holes to prevent a serious run at a 59 — with an asterisk of course.

"I knew it was a 105-yard hole," Curran said. "I don't think anybody really knew what all was going on. I think it was good that they gave us a chance to get out there and play."

Nick Watney had a bogey-free 65 and was in a group at 7 under that included 48-year-old Jerry Kelly, who also shot 29 while starting on the back nine. Yes, he had a 2 on 14.

"I would have counted those as 1-under par 4," said Kelly, who had the last of his three tour wins in 2009. "That's all I got to say."

There's another strong change of overnight storms into Saturday, but the forecast improves considerably later in the day and into Sunday. Workers spent about six hours getting the course ready starting around 4 Friday morning and might have to do it again.

"They've probably not really enjoyed each night for the last month or two months," said Spieth, who finished 16th in his first pro tournament as a 16-year-old amateur at the Nelson five years ago. "But hats off to them and hopefully they can catch a break now." And the players can know what par is. □




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NBA FINALS

And now, we wait: Cavs and Warriors get time to rest

TIM REYNOLDS
AP Basketball Writer

Golden State coach Steve Kerr was chatting with assistant Luke Walton a few minutes before what became the Warriors' clinching victory in the Western Conference Finals, and a realization popped into his head. "You know what we do now?" Kerr asked, somewhat rhetorically. "We wait."

Now, we all wait.

The NBA Finals won't start until June 4, meaning both the Cleveland Cavaliers and the Warriors will have more than a full week to rest, recover, scout and plan for Game 1. It's the same sort of break that Golden State had between the first and second rounds, and for Cleveland, these mini-vacations are now the norm — the Cavs also had layoffs of about a week fol-

lowing their wins in each of their opening two series. So both teams were off Thursday.

It's unprecedented in league history for both conference champions to be sitting around for so long before the NBA Finals. There are instances of one Finals-bound team having longer breaks, but not both in the same year.

There has been so-called "move-up dates" for The Finals in the past, but no more.

"We decided a few years ago that it was important to lock in a start date given the global nature of the NBA, with TV and digital partners and 215 countries and territories airing the games," league spokesman Michael Wade said Thursday. "While it's rare for our teams to have a week off prior to The Finals, the

time allows for both teams to rest up and get healthy." And just about everyone needs the rest.

Start with LeBron James, who has made playing through aches and pains at this time of year an annual occurrence. The athletic trainer who has worked in tandem with him for years, Mike Mancias, is basically around James more than anyone else as the playoffs go deeper, tending to whatever is ailing the four-time MVP.

"I will, as a leader, have our guys ready," James said. Cleveland guard Kyrie Irving has been playing through pain in both legs, and this break will determine basically if he reverts to his usual form or if he'll still be limping his way through the finals.

Golden State's Klay Thompson developed



Golden State Warriors head coach Steve Kerr smiles at a news conference after Game 5 of the NBA basketball Western Conference finals against the Houston Rockets in Oakland, Calif., Wednesday, May 27, 2015.

Associated Press

concussion-like symptoms after the conclusion of the West finals, so the time off will surely be welcomed there as he works his way back through the league's protocols for such matters. And Andre Iguodala was shaken up late in Game 5

against Houston, so he also can use a little extra rest. Golden State guard and the league's reigning MVP Stephen Curry took a nasty spill against Houston and was playing with a sleeve to protect his elbow in the clincher. □

Mclroy misses cut at Irish Open after even-par 2nd round

SHAWN POGATCHNIK

Associated Press

NEWCASTLE, Northern Ireland (AP) — Early exits are becoming a habit for Rory McIlroy, especially in his home country.

The 26-year-old Northern Ireland native failed to make the Irish Open cut for the third straight year Friday, shooting an even-par 71 that failed to make up for an 80 in the opening round. It is the second straight week the world's top-ranked golfer failed to make the weekend, having exited early at the PGA Championship at Wentworth.

This one, he said, hurt more because it's personal.

"Obviously I'm playing at home in front of a lot of friends and family. To not play the way I wanted is very disappointing. But I'm sort of getting used to it," said a downcast McIlroy, whose Rory Founda-



Northern Ireland's Rory McIlroy looks dejected after hitting his ball into the deep rough on the 18th hole during round two of the Irish Open Golf Championship at Royal County Down, Newcastle, Northern Ireland, Friday, May 29, 2015.

Associated Press

tion charity hosted the Irish Open for the first time.

England's Tyrrell Hatton showed the field at Royal County Down that the sea-side links course, bedeviled with unseasonably frigid gales and pelting showers, could be tamed.

The 23-year-old Hatton, ranked 142nd in the world,

set a new course record of 66 to join a five-way tie for the lead at 3-under 139. His score tied a mark from 1939, but club and European Tour officials said it was considered a new record because the course has greatly changed over the past 76 years.

Only 15 of the 156-player

field managed to beat par Friday as the changing weather drove the cutoff score to 5 over.

Ireland's Shane Lowry summed up the sense of frustration when he smashed his putter against his bag and broke it after missing a short putt for par on his third hole. Lowry actually played better when forced to putt with his wedge, managing three birdies and making the cut with a 74.

"Golf's a weird game and it'll drive you mad sometimes," said Lowry, who thanked his caddie for persuading him to stay on the course.

Local fans made the Irish Open a four-day, 80,000-ticket sellout in hopes of seeing McIlroy at his best. He gave them brief hope Friday when he sank a 30-foot putt on the short seventh for his first birdie of the tournament. He picked

up another shot at the 12th and needed just two more birdies to make the cut.

But McIlroy mis-hit his approach to the 15th and three-putted for a double bogey, erasing the day's gains.

"I just shot myself in the foot," he said.

He drove his shot off the 18th tee into an impenetrable wall of thorny gorse bushes and, after taking a penalty drop, saved par with a 15-foot putt in front of the cheering grandstand.

But McIlroy said he wasn't relishing the tournament's final two days.

"I might have to show my face at a couple things," he said.

He now has nearly three weeks to prepare for the U.S. Open.

"I'm honestly looking forward to a couple weeks off," he said. □

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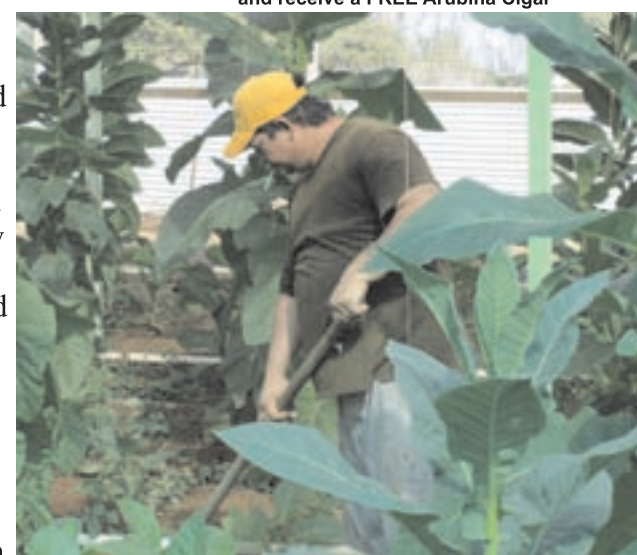
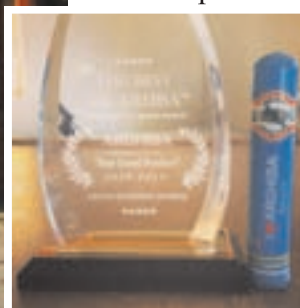


ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers

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Owner Benjamin Petrocchi

Red Sox lefty Rodriguez wins MLB debut, 5-1 at Texas

The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) —

Eduardo Rodriguez threw 7 2/3 scoreless innings to become the youngest Red Sox starter to win in his major league debut on the road since 1967, and Boston beat the Rangers 5-1 to spoil Josh Hamilton's first home game back in Texas on Thursday night.

The 22-year-old Rodriguez was already the youngest Red Sox pitcher to make his MLB debut on the road since 21-year-old Roger Clemens in 1985. Billy Rohr was 21 when he won in his debut at the New York Yankees on April 14, 1967.

Rodriguez (1-0) struck out seven and walked two. Boston went ahead to stay when Mookie Betts had an RBI single in the fifth off Nick Martinez (4-1).

Hamilton was 2-for-4, lining a double into the right-field corner on the first pitch he saw from Rodriguez in the second inning. He added an RBI single in the ninth. Back in Texas a month and a day after being reacquired from the Los Angeles Angels, the 2010 AL MVP had gone 1-for-11 in his first three games after reuniting with the team Monday in Cleveland.

WHITE SOX 3, ORIOLES 2, 1st game

ORIOLES 6, WHITE SOX 3, 2nd game

BALTIMORE (AP) — Chris Sale struck out 12 over 7 2-3 shutout innings to lead the Chicago White Sox over the Orioles in the opener of a doubleheader caused by rioting in Baltimore last month.

The doubleheader was scheduled after games on April 27-28 were postponed because of riots near the ballpark following the funeral of a black man who died of injuries sustained while in police custody. The third game of that series was played without fans in the stadium. The nightcap featured a matchup of rookie right-handers. Chris Beck (0-1) gave up four earned runs, 10 hits and four walks in six innings in his major league debut for the White Sox. Mike Wright (2-0) went five



Boston Red Sox starting pitcher Eduardo Rodriguez works against the Texas Rangers during the first inning of a baseball game, Thursday, May 28, 2015, in Arlington, Texas.

Associated Press

innings, allowing three runs and six hits.

Zach Britton, the fourth Baltimore reliever, worked a perfect ninth for his 13th save. Sale (4-2) dominated the Orioles in the opener, setting a season high in strikeouts, allowing four hits and no walks. Making his first major league start following two appearances as a reliever this month, Orioles rookie Tyler Wilson (1-1) took the loss.

INDIANS 5, MARINERS 3

SEATTLE (AP) — Corey Kluber struck out 13 in seven innings to win his third straight decision, Jason Kipnis continued his hot May with two hits and two RBIs, and the Cleveland Indians beat the Seattle Mariners.

Cleveland won for the eighth time in 10 games, inching closer to .500 after struggling the first six weeks of the season. Kluber, the reigning AL Cy Young winner, improved to 3-0 with 50 strikeouts and two walks in his last four starts.

Kluber (3-5) gave up a pair of home runs to Mike Zunino in the third and Dustin Ackley in the sixth, but Seattle was able to mount little otherwise. Kluber earned his first road victory of the season.

James Paxton (3-3) gave

up eight hits and three earned runs before leaving with two outs and a 3-0 count against Brandon Moss in the fifth due to a finger injury.

ATHLETICS 5, YANKEES 4

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Ben Zobrist drew a bases-loaded walk from David Carpenter in the seventh inning to break a tie and the Oakland Athletics rallied from a three-run deficit to beat the New York Yankees.

Billy Burns and Brett Lawrie homered off CC Sabathia (2-7) to start the comeback from a 3-0 hole and the A's went on to beat the Yankees for the 10th time in their past 11 meetings in Oakland.

Alex Rodriguez tied Barry Bonds for second place on the all-time RBIs list and Brian McCann homered in his third straight game for the Yankees, who had their three-game winning streak snapped.

Evan Scribner (1-0) retired all five batters he faced for the win. Tyler Clippard allowed a two-out RBI double by Brett Gardner in the ninth before getting Chase Hedley to fly out for his fifth save in six chances.

ANGELS 12, TIGERS 2

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) —

Chris Iannetta hit his fourth career grand slam, Albert Pujols and Matt Joyce also homered and C.J. Wilson pitched two-hit ball over six innings for the Los Angeles Angels in a rout over the Detroit Tigers.

Wilson (3-3) struck out seven and walked five in the opener of a four-game series. The left-hander allowed his only run in the third, hitting two-time AL

MVP Miguel Cabrera on the right foot with the bases loaded after giving up a leadoff single to James McCann and two two-out walks.

Buck Farmer (0-1) made his first start of the season and third of his big league career after getting recalled from Triple-A Toledo, and was charged with seven runs and nine hits in five-plus innings. □

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SAT 3:35 | 6:20 | 9:05

SUN & HOL 3:35 | 6:20 | 9:05

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FRI 5:10 | 7:25 | 9:40 | 11:55

SAT 2:55 | 5:10 | 7:25 | 9:40 | 11:55

SUN & HOL 2:55 | 5:10 | 7:25 | 9:40

MAD MAX 3D

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3D VERSION

MON-THURS 4:20 | 9:30

FRI-SAT 4:20 | 9:30 | 12:05

SUN & HOL 4:20 | 9:30

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MON-FRI 6:55

SAT, SUN & HOL 1:50 | 6:55

HOT PURSUIT

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 4:55 | 7:00 | 9:10

FRI 4:55 | 7:00 | 9:10 | 11:20

SAT 2:50 | 4:55 | 7:00 | 9:10 | 11:20

SUN & HOL 2:50 | 4:55 | 7:00 | 9:10

PITCH PERFECT 2

MON-THURS 4:15 | 6:45 | 9:15

FRI 4:15 | 6:45 | 9:15 | 11:30

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Federer, Sharapova advance at French Open

BY SAMUEL PETREQUIN

AP Sports Writer

PARIS (AP) — Stepping onto center court to take on 88th-ranked Damir Dzumhur, Roger Federer was on his guard.

The 17-time Grand Slam champion had been caught cold at a previous French Open by a player ranked as low as the 23-year-old Bosnian, and he made sure that did not happen again. Federer advanced to the fourth round for the 11th straight year with a clinical 6-4, 6-3, 6-2 win Friday.

"I'd never played him before, he moves well, he's very quick. I didn't know him and I didn't know how he'd play on the key points," said Federer, who lost in the first round in Paris to the 88th-ranked Luis Horna 12 years ago.

"Mentally I'm not always as relaxed as people might think, there is so much at stake," Federer said.

The 33-year-old Federer, who is seeded second at the tournament, won his only French Open title in 2009 when he completed his career Grand Slam.

After winning his first two matches in straight sets, Federer put on another aggressive and solid display,



Switzerland's Roger Federer returns the ball to Bosnia and Herzegovina's Damir Dzumhur during their third round match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium, Friday, May 29, 2015 in Paris.

winning 24 points at the net and saving four of the five break points he faced. "Once I got the rhythm it got better and better, and I was able to play more freely and mix up the game," Federer said.

The Swiss hit a superb forehand passing shot to earn a match point and sealed it when Dzumhur sent a backhand into the net. Federer will next be up against either 13th-seeded Gael Monfils or No. 21 seed Pablo Cuevas.

On a good day for the favorites, fourth-seeded Tomas Berdych overcame a tough start to beat Benoit Paire 6-1, 6-7 (5), 6-3, 6-4 and defending champion Maria Sharapova produced a convincing 6-3, 6-4 win over former finalist Samantha Stosur. After struggling in her first two matches at the French Open, Ana Ivanovic eased past Donna Vekic 6-0, 6-3 to book a spot in the second week.

In men's play, Federer's

Davis Cup teammate Stan Wawrinka and No. 14 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France both advanced in straight sets

It was Sharapova's first serious test this year, and she passed it with ease, in a sharp contrast to her previous match with Stosur in Paris last year, when she trailed 6-3, 4-3 before turning it around.

Up next for the second-seeded Sharapova is another tricky match against No. 13 seed Lucie Safa-

rova. Sharapova has won four of their five matches, but their last three went to three sets.

On a cold morning in the French capital, it took Ivanovic just 53 minutes to return to a fourth round at a major tournament for the first time in more than a year.

Ivanovic, who won the French Open in 2008 after losing in the final a year before, wrapped up the first set in 23 minutes and finished with 19 winners.

"After the first two matches, I really started to get a little bit of feeling and groove," said the Serb, who was pushed to decide in the first and second rounds after twice losing the opening set.

The last time Ivanovic made the fourth round of a major was at the Australian Open in 2014. She was eliminated by 142nd-ranked Lucie Hradecka in Melbourne earlier this year after playing with a broken toe.

Since winning the title seven years ago, Ivanovic has never progressed past the fourth round in Roland Garros. Her next opponent on the Parisian red clay will be No. 9 seed Ekaterina Makarova, who defeated Elena Vesnina 6-2, 6-4.

Playing on Court Suzanne Lenglen, Ivanovic was broken in the third game of the second set. She recovered quickly though, winning five of the next six games.

Also, local favorite Alize Cornet advanced to her maiden fourth-round match in 11 attempts at her home tournament with a 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 hard-fought win over Mirjana Lucic-Baroni, who finished with 59 unforced errors after her all-risk approach backfired.

Cornet celebrated her victory as if she had won the tournament, falling onto her back, letting out a scream and then bursting into tears.

"At last, I'm into the second week at Roland," Cornet said. "I've been waiting for this for 11 years."

Contador has 38 seconds sliced off Giro lead; Aru wins stage

CERVINIA, Italy (AP) — Alberto Contador had 38 seconds sliced off his overall lead in the 19th stage of the Giro d'Italia on Friday, although the Spaniard remained well on course for the title.

Italian rival Fabio Aru won the mountain stage with a late breakaway and moved back into second place overall, 4 minutes, 37 seconds behind Contador.

Aru's Astana teammate Mikel Landa dropped to third overall, 5:15 back, entering Saturday's final mountain stage before Sunday's flat finish in Milan. Aru required nearly 6 1/2 hours over the 236-kilo-

meter (147-mile) leg from Gravellona Toce to Cervinia, which included three major climbs, including an uphill finish.

Ryder Hesjedal, the 2012 winner from Canada, finished second, 28 seconds behind, and Rigoberto Uran, the Colombian who finished second the last two years, crossed third, 1:10 back.

Contador and Landa were in a group of riders who finished 1:18 behind. Contador showed little interest in chasing Aru, choosing to follow Landa instead.

"I was marking Landa, my biggest rival," Contador said. "Aru was the stron-

gest today."

Contador may have also been saving his energy for Saturday's penultimate stage, a 199-kilometer (124-mile) leg from Saint-Vincent to Sestriere that includes a grueling climb up a dirt road on Colle delle Finestre.

Contador has not won a stage in this year's race. "I've been working for the pink jersey for five months," Contador said. "Winning a stage is secondary."

Contador is attempting to become the first rider since Marco Pantani in 1998 to win the Giro and Tour de France in the same year.

A two-time Tour champion, Contador won the



Italy's Fabio Aru pedals in front of Canada's Ryder Hesjedal on his way to win the 19th stage of the Giro d'Italia, Tour of Italy cycling race from Gravellona Toce to Cervinia, Friday, May 29, 2015.

Associated Press

Giro in 2008 and was also triumphant in Milan in 2011 but was stripped of that title for testing positive in the 2010 Tour.



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Uber, Lyft push back against proposed NYC regulations

KAREN MATTHEWS

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Representatives of Uber and Lyft warned Thursday that a New York City effort to regulate app-based ride-hailing services will stall innovation and threaten competition.

The regulations "will be crushing to our thousands of drivers," Michael Allegritti, New York head of public policy for San Francisco-based Uber, said at a public hearing of New York's Taxi and Limousine Commission.

But commission Chairwoman Meera Joshi said the proposed rules changes are minor adjustments to existing regulations that have been mischaracterized by opponents.

She said a requirement that car-service companies inform the commission of updates to their apps would not mean, as critics have charged, that Uber and the other app-based companies would have to divulge technical information.

"It's not software, it's not source code or any advanced programming," Joshi said.

She said requiring the com-

panies to submit trip data to the commission would not invade passengers' privacy.

"We're not requiring the submission of any passenger information or any information about lifestyle and habits at all," Joshi said. "Simply date, time and location of pickup."

Representatives of the app-based car industry and its backers argue that the rules would be burdensome to the industry.

"Will you, the TLC, set the global standard for embracing the future or undermine that progress by unfairly targeting transportation innovation?" Allegritti asked.

Diana Dellamere, a public policy manager for Lyft, criticized a proposal limiting the number of electronic devices that a driver can use to two. Some drivers work for multiple companies and have a phone for each company.

"Drivers who might want to experiment with different companies ... will be forced to choose, and of course they will choose the biggest company," she said.

The regulations address is-



Uber drivers and their supporters protest in front of the offices of the Taxi and Limousine Commission in New York, Thursday, May 28, 2015.

Associated Press

sues including fares, airport pickups and the availability of wheelchair-accessible cars.

Ryan Wanttaja, assistant general counsel for the taxi commission, said passengers would have to agree in advance to so-called "surge pricing," which forces riders to pay a premium during high-demand times. He said apps would have to include a way to

request a wheelchair-accessible vehicle.

TLC officials said they are working with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which runs the region's airports, to move car service vehicles to designated lots at LaGuardia and Kennedy airports so that they don't clog traffic. A few dozen Uber drivers rallied outside the commis-

sion's Manhattan headquarters before the hearing, chanting "We love Uber!"

Drivers for Uber, yellow taxis and traditional, non-Internet-based car services packed the hearing room and applauded or booed the speakers.

The commission may vote on the regulations at its June 18 meeting. □

Apple buys a maker of futuristic augmented-reality software

BRANDON BAILEY

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Apple has bought a company that makes augmented-reality software, which adds information or images to real-world scenes when viewed through a special headset or even a smartphone camera.

It's the latest sign that ma-

ior tech companies see big potential for products that let users view the world with extra features added by technology. Apple, Google, Facebook and Microsoft are all working on augmented- or virtual-reality products. Augmented reality can add hand-drawn sketches, navigational directions, historic video

or computer-generated, three-dimensional images to a real-world scene. Virtual reality can make viewers feel as if they are immersed in an artificial world.

Apple on Thursday confirmed the purchase of Munich-based Metaio for an undisclosed sum but did not say what it plans to do with the technology.



Equinix to buy data center rival Telecity for \$3.6 billion

CHAD BRAY

© 2015 New York Times

LONDON - The U.S. data center provider Equinix said Friday that it had struck a deal to acquire its smaller British rival Telecity Group for about \$3.6 billion in cash and stock.

The proposed transaction thwarts an all-share deal announced in February be-

tween Telecity and its European rival Interxion Holding. Equinix, one of the world's biggest providers of data centers, swooped in with a competing offer this month. Under the terms, Equinix would pay the equivalent of 11.45 pounds, or about \$17.55, a share in a combination of cash and shares, a 34.9 percent premium

to Telecity's closing price Feb. 10, the day before its planned alliance with Interxion was announced. The offer values Telecity at 2.35 billion pounds. Stephen M. Smith, the Equinix president and chief executive, said in a news release that adding Telecity would "considerably strengthen Equinix's offer-

ing to customers in Europe and beyond, reinforcing us as a global leader in global interconnection and data centers, as well as bringing the benefits of greater cloud and network density to our customers."

Telecity, which is based in London, operates data centers in 11 countries in Europe. If the deal is complet-

ed, Telecity shareholders will receive 572.5 pence in cash per share and 0.0327 of the combined company per share. In the end, they would own about 10.1 percent of the combined company.

The board of directors of Telecity was expected to recommend that shareholders approve the Equinix deal. □

Wall Street ends week lower on disappointing data

KEN SWEET

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks sank Friday following news that the U.S. economy shrank in the first three months of the year.

The revised data showed that gross domestic product contracted 0.7 percent in the first quarter. That was worse than the government's initial estimate of growth of 0.2 percent.

The Dow Jones industrial average lost 115.44 points, or 0.6 percent, to 18,010.68. The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 13.40 points, or 0.6 percent, to 2,107.39 and the Nasdaq composite lost 27.95 points, or 0.6 percent, to 5,070.03.

All three indexes ended the week lower. It was the first weekly loss for the S&P 500 following three weeks of gains.

Investors had two other disappointing pieces of economic news to work through. A Chicago manufacturing survey fell to 46.2, well below the 53 that economists were anticipating, and a measure of consumer sentiment fell to a six-month low in May.

Along with the disappointing economic data, investors continued to watch developments out of Greece. Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras has said a deal with the country's creditors could be ready by the weekend, but it appears other key officials are less confident.

"With it being a Friday and the uncertainty around the Greece situation and the disappointing economic data, naturally investors are taking some of their positions off the table," said JJ Kinahan, a strategist at TD Ameritrade.

Christine Lagarde, the head of the International Monetary Fund, said a Greek exit from the euro remains a possibility, while German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble also appeared cautious in comments following the end of a meeting of top finance officials in Berlin. Without a deal to receive its remaining bailout cash soon, Greece faces the grim possibilities of defaulting on its debt or ditching the euro. Figures from the European Central Bank

showing Greek bank deposits are at their lowest in more than a decade only added to the prevailing gloom.

ment bankers to potentially sell the company.

GameStop rose \$2.49, or 6 percent, to \$43.41. The video game retailer post-

mand and a surprisingly large decline in the number of rigs drilling for oil in the U.S. Benchmark U.S. crude rose \$2.62 to close at



Trader Dudley Devine works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Stocks sank Friday following news that the U.S. economy shrank in the first three months of the year.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

Among individual stocks, shares of Humana rose \$36.24, or 20 percent, to \$214.65 after The Wall Street Journal reported that the health insurance company has hired invest-

ed results that exceeded analysts' estimates, helped by the sale of recently released video game titles.

In energy, the price of oil rose nearly 5 percent Friday on an increase in de-

\$60.30 a barrel in New York. Oil finished the week up 1 percent. Brent crude, a benchmark for international oil used by many U.S. refineries, rose \$2.98 to close at \$65.56 in London. □

America's index of consumer sentiment drops in May

PAUL WISEMAN

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A weak U.S. economy pulled down consumer sentiment in May.

The University of Michigan says its index of consumer sentiment dropped to 90.7 from 95.9 in April. The May reading was the lowest since November.

Consumers of all ages and income levels were gloomier this month. And

they were less confident both about current economic conditions and the future. But Richard Curtin, chief economist of the surveys, noted that the index has averaged 94.6 the first five months of 2015, highest since 2004.

On Tuesday, the Conference Board, a business group, reported that its measure of consumer spirits showed modest improvement in May. Its

consumer confidence index rose to 95.4 from 94.3 in April. The Conference Board credited an improved job market: Employers added a healthy 223,000 jobs in March, up from an unimpressive 85,000 in March. And unemployment tumbled to 5.4 percent last month, lowest since May 2008.

Still, consumers have reasons to be cautious about the economy and their

own financial wellbeing. The Commerce Department reported Friday that the U.S. economy fell at a 0.7 percent annual pace the first three months of the year, hurt by severe winter weather and a widening trade deficit. And gasoline prices have been rising after hitting a low of \$2.03 a gallon in late January. Prices at the pump are up to \$2.74 a gallon from \$2.56 a gallon

a month ago, according to AAA.

The Michigan index still stands well above May 2014's 81.9. Despite the May dip, most economists say consumers' mood remains consistent with healthy spending.

"We continue to look for a pickup in consumption over the next two months," Barclays Research economist Jesse Hurwitz wrote in a research note. □

Corporate Branding:

Carl's, Hardee's CEO: Not all models know how to eat burgers

CANDICE CHOI

AP Food Industry Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Carl's Jr. and Hardee's ads starring nearly naked women have become a part of American culture, according to Andy Puzder, CEO of the chains' parent company.

"People watch for the ads, and want to know when the next one's coming out," he says.

Some of the women were relatively unknown before they appeared in the ads. Others, such as Heidi Klum and Padma Lakshmi, were already famous. The 64-year-old chief executive says the ads "cut through the clutter" and make an impression on the younger men the burger chains court.

CKE Restaurants, the parent company of Carl's Jr. and Hardee's, is privately held and doesn't disclose financial results. But it says sales were up 5 percent at established locations in the second half of its last fiscal year.

The newest ad airs Monday and stars Sports Illustrated model Samantha Hoopes eating "The Most American Thickburger," which includes a beef patty between a split hot dog and potato chips. Here's what Puzder had to say in an interview, trimmed and edited for clarity.

Q: How did these ads start?

A: It started with an ad agency we used to have called Mendelsohn Zien, and a guy named Jordin Mendelsohn. He came up with the idea to use Paris Hilton in an ad and make it a very cutting edge ad, where she was washing a Bentley.

Actually, he tried to chicken out. He called and said, "I don't think we should do this ad, I want to talk to you." But I called him back and I said, "I want to do the Paris Hilton ad."

This was 2005.

(Mendelsohn says he didn't like the initial ad his team developed, but

didn't object to the final version he worked on.)

Q: Do models now see Carl's Jr. ads as a platform?

A: We did an ad last summer where (Sports Illustrated model) Hannah Ferguson was washing a big Ford pickup truck for the Texas barbecue burger. We did an event in Texas and I was talking to her. She said, "All us girls at Sports Illustrated, we all talk about who's going to do the next Carl's Jr. ad and how can we be the model that does the next ad?"

(A representative for Ferguson says she never made the statement.)

And Padma's manager contacted us. You know who Padma is?

Q: Padma Lakshmi?

A: Yeah, Padma actually put in one of her cookbooks how when she was modeling as a teenager, her parents moved to Los Angeles. They couldn't eat meat, right? But she would sneak out to a Carl's Jr. and get a Western Bacon Cheeseburger, and then lick the barbecue sauce off her fingers when she got home, so her parents couldn't tell. Padma's manager called and said, "Did you see this in the book?"

So we put her in an ad where she eats a Western Bacon Cheeseburger.

We get a lot of actresses, whose names I won't tell you, who contact us, who we don't end up using in the ad because they're not right for the brand.

Q: Do you get a lot of complaints about the ads?

A: They'll send out an email blast. I won't name the organization, but there are a couple organizations that do that.

One of these groups is headed by a very nice woman who I met at the Republican Convention in 2012. And she came up and said, "Andy, I read your stuff, I read what you



CKE Restaurants CEO Andy Puzder speaks at a news conference in Austin, Texas, to highlight Carl's Jr.'s commitment to the state. Carl's Jr. and Hardee's ads featuring nearly naked women have become a part of American culture, according to Puzder.

(Jack Plunkett/CKE Restaurants via AP)

write, and I agree with you politically. But I want you to know I'm the head of X organization and we do these email blasts because we really don't like your ads."

I grabbed her hand and said, "Thank you." And she said, "What do you mean?"

I said, "If you guys don't do an email blast with one

of our ads, I run into the head of marketing and say, 'What's the matter with the ad?'"

Q: Speaking of the convention, you're outspoken politically. You write columns and were an economic adviser to Mitt Romney's presidential campaign. Any fear of alienating customers?

A: It doesn't seem to have impacted the business at all. If you were buying products or going to movies based upon the politics of the people involved, well I probably couldn't go to half the movies I go to.

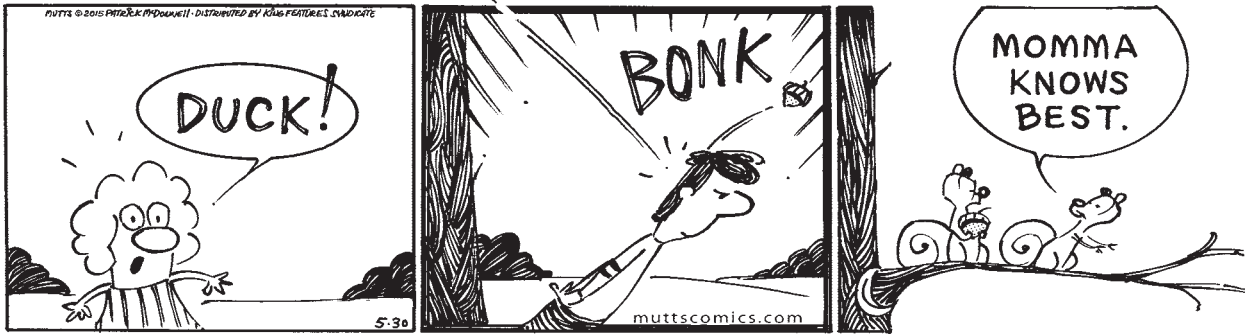
I think people give you a break. This is America. You're allowed to have your views. □



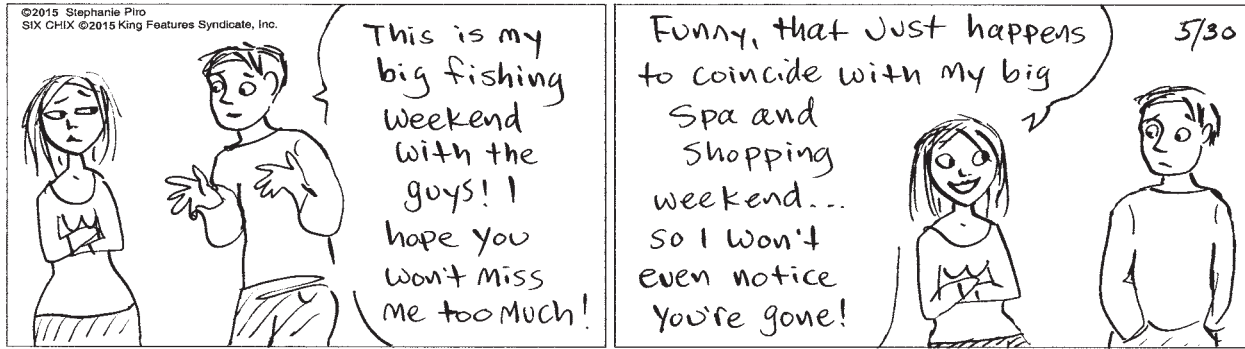
This photo shows an ad for Carl's Jr. and Hardee's starring Sports Illustrated model Samantha Hoopes eating "The Most American Thickburger," which is topped with a split hot dog and potato chips. Andy Puzder, CEO of parent company CKE, says the ads of women eating burgers lift sales because they "cut through the clutter" and make an impression on the younger men the chains are trying to court.

(Fab Fernandez/CKE Restaurants via AP)

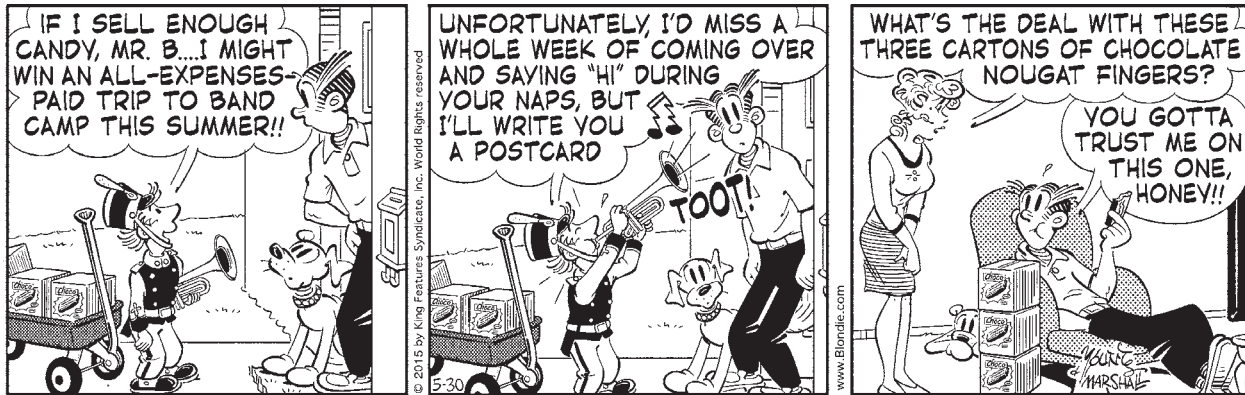
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

7				2			9
	4		3			8	
		5	6		2		
1					9		
	2		5			1	
		3					2
		9		4	5		
	8			1		6	
6			5				7

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

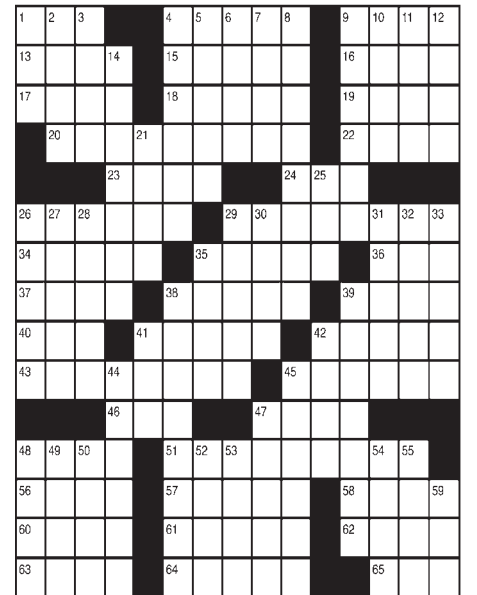
©2015 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

5	6	9	1	7	3	2	4	8
4	2	7	6	8	5	9	3	1
1	3	8	2	9	4	7	5	6
2	9	1	8	4	7	5	6	3
7	8	4	3	5	6	1	2	9
6	5	3	9	2	1	8	7	4
3	1	5	7	6	8	4	9	2
8	4	2	5	3	9	6	1	7
9	7	6	4	1	2	3	8	5

ACROSS

- 1 Small jump
4 Play a lute
9 Reach across
13 Eve's husband
15 "___ Were the Days"
16 Gigantic
17 Fly alone
18 Irritates
19 Singles
20 La-Z-Boy store purchases
22 Benign growth
23 ___ back; relax
24 Type; variety
26 "Sesame ___"
29 Nice
34 In ___; weeping
35 Lock of hair
36 "___ whiz!"
37 Actor Griffith
38 Cut of beef
39 Cry
40 Actress Arthur
41 Dissolves
42 Eye color
43 Wander away from the others
45 Ne'er-do-wells
46 Ms. Thurman
47 Mall event
48 Holbrook and Linden
51 Opposite of loosened
56 Highest cards
57 Sacred scroll
58 Slammer
60 Bangkok fellow
61 Not sleeping
62 "___ tough job, but somebody's got to do it"
63 Extravagant publicity
64 Curved sword
65 Bashful



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/30/15

Friday's Puzzle Solved

HONOR	TEAK	LAVA
EMOTE	RACE	USES
MITTS	ETTE	KIRK
STEEPLES	PLEDGE	
ROAD	SEAWEEED	
DOESNT	CIRCA	
IVY	DEBIT	ERECT
VEER	RAGED	MOLE
ENDED	GASES	NUN
CAPER	BOSSD	
FEDERAL	GRIP	
ERASED	REALISTS	
ANNS	DRAIT	IDAHO
SIZE	LENT	NEVER
TEAS	EDGY	GREET

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5/30/15

DOWN

- 1 "Elvis ___ left the building"
2 Underarm concern
3 Lose color
4 No-nonsense
5 ___ about; contemplate
6 Acting part
7 Drug addict
8 Sloppiest
9 Flabbergasts
10 Pathetically tiny
11 Ice ___; glacial epochs
12 Crow's home
14 Make a ___ of; ridicule
21 Is dishonest
25 ___ Cruces, NM
26 Pierces
27 Religious belief
28 Speeder's nemesis
29 Babble
30 More or ___
31 Staring
32 More modern
33 Blabs; spills the beans
35 Fee paid to cross a bridge
38 Boat races
39 Barkless dog
41 "Gone with the Wind" production co.
42 Donut's center
44 One from "Down Under"
45 Soapsuds
47 Tremble
48 "Hell ___ no fury like a woman scorned"
49 Sore
50 ___ frog; children's jumping game
52 Des Moines, ___
53 Snatch
54 Consumes
55 Piece of china
59 ___ into; attack verbally

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Fossils of previously unknown beaver species found in U.S.

JEFF BARNARD

Associated Press

GRANTS PASS, Oregon

(AP) — A fossilized skull and teeth from a newly described species of beaver that lived 28 million years ago have been unearthed in eastern Oregon.

The fossils worked their way out of the soil within a mile of the visitor center at the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, said the monument's paleontologist, Joshua Samuels.

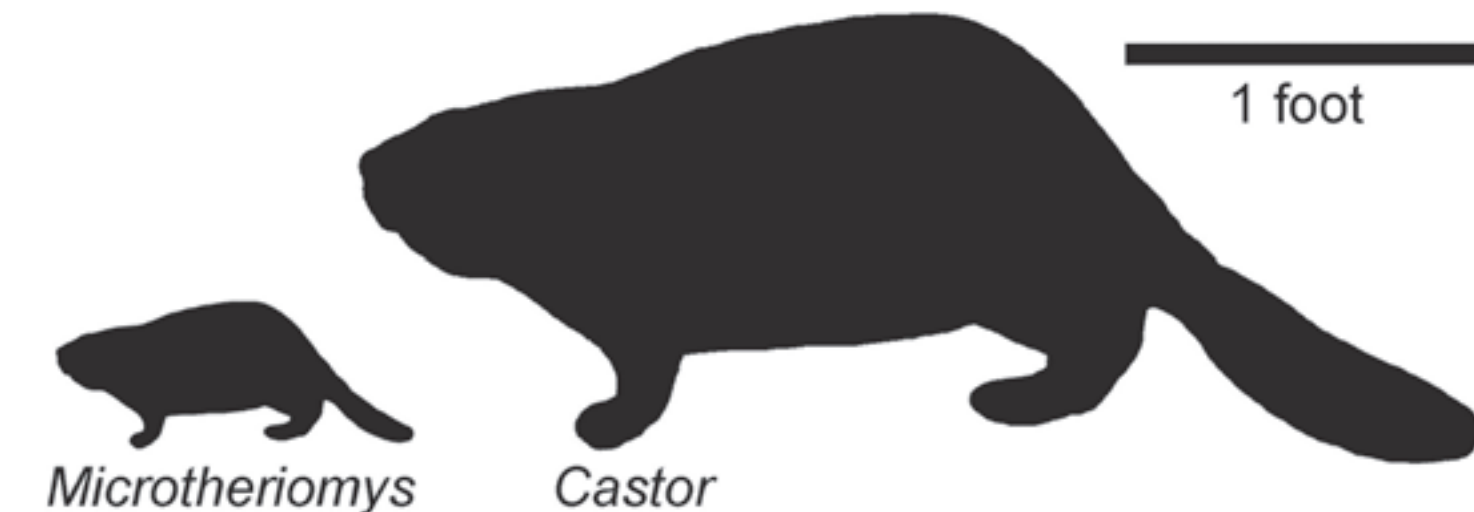
The find is significant, he said, because unlike the other species of ancient beavers found at the monument,

this one appears related to the modern beaver, a symbol of Oregon found on the state flag. The others all went extinct.

The species is named *Microtheriomys brevirhinus*.

It was less than half the size of a modern beaver and related to beavers from Asia that crossed the Bering land bridge to North America about 7 million years ago, Samuels said.

It roamed what is now the



This diagram provided by John Day Fossil Beds National Monument paleontologist Joshua Samuels in May 2015 compares the size of a modern beaver, *Castor*, with a beaver that lived 20 million years ago in eastern Oregon.

Associated Press

monument during the Oligocene period, about 30 million years after the dinosaurs,

along with three-toed horses,

a two-horned rhinos, giant pigs, saber-tooths, rabbits and several species of dogs.

The fossils, and those of 20 other rodent species, were described in the May 15 edition of the journal *Annals of Carnegie Museum*.

University of Oregon paleontologist Samantha Hopkins said in an email it will be exciting to analyze the find in an evolutionary framework.

"While there is relatively little castorid (beaver species) diversity today, there are hundreds of species (many of which are really important members of their faunal communities) in the

fossil record of the Northern Hemisphere, and a better understanding of their diversity and evolutionary relationships has a lot to tell us about processes driving mammalian evolution over the last 40 million years," she wrote. Samuels said the age of the beaver fossils was deduced by their location between two layers of volcanic ash that have been dated from

radioactive isotopes.

"We've got badlands exposures here," he said. "As they get wet, whenever it rains or snows and the temperature heats or cools,

the claystone these things are in shrinks and swells. The bones are pushed out. The rock breaks apart. The fossils are exposed. This one just came out of the ground it was preserved in."

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Gordon-Levitt has high hopes for impact of 'Snowden'

RYAN PEARSON

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Joseph Gordon-Levitt has big expectations for the impact of "Snowden." The 34-year-old actor wrapped filming earlier this month on the Oliver Stone thriller about former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden, whose 2013 leaks to the media revealed the government's bulk collection of American calling records. Congress is set for an unusual weekend session to debate the records collection and two other surveillance laws. "The laws are all in flux. ... I'm really curious what's going to happen. And I love the idea that we made the movie when we did so that it can participate in that conversation," Gordon-Levitt said in an interview Thursday. He noted a May 7 federal appeals court ruling that the NSA's actions were illegal.

"Hopefully, there will probably be a Supreme Court case about it at some point soon. And while the Supreme Court judges aren't

supposed to really listen to popular opinion, they do," Gordon-Levitt said.

Gordon-Levitt plays Snowden in Stone's film, which is based on two books about the leaks and also features Shailene Woodley, Zachary Quinto and Melissa Leo. "Snowden" is set for release in December.

"I think it's really important for us to all talk about it and to talk about different sides," Gordon-Levitt said. "You don't really get much in the American media that explores why he did what he did, why the government could potentially be doing something wrong."

Snowden, who is living in Russia, was also the subject of Laura Poitras' HBO documentary "Citizenfour," which won an Academy Award in February. Gordon-Levitt declined to say whether he'd been in contact with Snowden. The actor made his remarks while promoting his crowd-sourced variety show "HitRecord on TV," which launches its second season June 12. □



In this March 1, 2014 file photo, Joseph Gordon-Levitt arrives at the 2014 Film Independent Spirit Awards, in Santa Monica, Calif.

Associated Press

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Steve Martin reflects on his career as he receives AFI honor

SANDY COHEN

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — In the early 1980s, when Steve Martin was a fledgling movie star, he recalls attending the American Film Institute's celebration of Frank Capra and how Hollywood glitterati swirled around the Oscar-winning filmmaker. Martin himself will be at the center of the celebration next week, surrounded by friends and colleagues from a 48-year career in entertainment. Mel Brooks will present Martin with AFI's 43rd Life Achievement Award at a private ceremony in Hollywood on June 4.

"It's such a prestigious group that they've given this award to, and I can't help but think, 'What am I doing there?'" Martin said in a recent interview. "But, still, they gave it to me, so I'm accepting it with full pride."

The ultimate multi-hyphenate, Martin says he never had a career plan — which seems to have worked out well for the 69-year-old screenwriter, actor, comedian, producer, playwright, novelist and musician.

"I always felt I was lucky to be where I was," he said.



In this June 23, 2014 file photo, Steve Martin poses during "The Un-Private Collection: Eric Fischl and Steve Martin," an art talk presented by The Broad museum in Santa Monica, Calif.

Associated Press

One of his earliest gigs was as a writer for "The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour," which led to other TV-writing jobs. In 1979, he co-wrote and starred in the film "The Jerk," followed by "Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid" and "The Man with Two Brains" a few years later. And when he couldn't find a writer to work on his idea for an updated "Cyrano de Bergerac," he de-

cided to try it himself. The 1987 movie "Roxanne" was the result.

"So that worked out, and it turned me into a screenwriter, a solo screenwriter," he said. "There are so many little accidents along the way that happen."

Sir Howard Stringer, chair of the AFI Board of Trustees, called Martin "a multi-layered creative force bound by neither convention nor

caution" and "a national treasure whose work has stuck with us like an arrow in the head."

Martin first gained fame as a standup, not to mention his breakout appearances on "Saturday Night Live" in the '70s. But he came to prefer film as a comedic venue.

"I really like the idea, when I first started doing it, of getting a comedy down and it

doesn't have to be repeated every night," he said. "It's on film. You can get it right, hopefully, and you never have to worry about it again."

Writing films inspired him to write dramas and prose. A play he wrote "in my spare time" will open at San Diego's Old Globe Theatre next year. Martin also adapted his novella, "Shopgirl," into the 2005 film of the same name.

Writing and performing music has reignited his pleasure in appearing live in front of an audience. The banjo player said there's "a lot of comedy" in the concerts he plays with the bluegrass band Steep Canyon Rangers, "and it's really been fun." He also recently performed a pair of standup shows with pal Martin Short.

Martin recently began work on Ang Lee's latest film, "Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk," and hopes to one day work with Wes Anderson. Meanwhile, he wrote a musical with Edie Brickell, and the two are planning to release an album. Martin will also be curating a traveling art exhibit of works by Canadian painter Lawren Harris. □



In this Jan. 11, 2015 file photo, Kelly Rutherford arrives at The Weinstein Company and Netflix Golden Globes afterparty at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

ANTHONY MCCARTNEY

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A court order that granted actress Kelly Rutherford temporary custody of her children to allow her to bring them back to Los Angeles from Monaco was halted Thursday.

Judge Maren E. Nelson,

who presides over family law courts in Los Angeles, halted a ruling by another judge who expressed concerns that Rutherford's former husband violated terms of a 2013 custody order that allowed the children to live abroad.

Rutherford, who starred in "Melrose Place" and "Gos-

Actress Kelly Rutherford can't yet bring children back to U.S.

sip Girl," has accused ex-husband Daniel Giersch of preventing her from seeing their children, which he denies. A summary of a hearing where Rutherford got custody last week didn't specify how Giersch may have violated the 2013 order.

His lawyer, Fahri Takesh Halil, filed documents showing that a Monaco court now has jurisdiction over the children and claimed that Rutherford "made fraudulent statements, and lied and made misrepresentations by omission" to gain temporary custody.

A call to Rutherford's attorney, David J. Glass, was not immediately returned Friday.

Nelson's ruling prevents

Rutherford from taking custody of her son and daughter until after judges in Monaco and Los Angeles confer about the case. That conversation is scheduled to take place June 11. The way the case proceeds will be governed by rules that take effect when parents involved in a custody dispute live in different states or countries, said Steven Mindel, a Los Angeles divorce attorney who is not affiliated with the case. Conferences between judges in two countries on custody issues are rare but occur once or twice a year, Mindel said. He said the California court may relinquish jurisdiction over the case since Rutherford has moved to New York

and Giersch lives in Monaco.

Giersch and Rutherford married in 2006 and filed for divorce in Los Angeles two years later. They were granted a divorce in July 2010 and continued to fight over custody until the order allowed Giersch to keep the children abroad. The pair has an 8-year-old son and 5-year-old daughter together.

Rutherford also has accused her ex-husband of trying to have a Monaco court change their citizenship. Giersch's filing states that the Monaco court does not have the authority to do that, and no request to alter the children's dual U.S.-German citizenship has been made. □

Contain and Amplify



Thomas L. Friedman
© 2015 New York Times News Service

The Arab world is a pluralistic region that lacks pluralism - the ability to manage and embrace differences peacefully. As such, the Middle East's pluralistic character - Sunnis, Shiites, Kurds, Christians, Druze, Alawites, Jews, Copts, Yazidis, Turkmen and an array of tribes - has long been managed by iron fists from above. But after we removed the fists in Iraq and Libya, without putting a new bottom-up order in place, and the people themselves tried to remove the fists in Syria and Yemen, without putting a new live-and-let-live order in place, a horrifying war of all against all has exploded. The fighting has laid bare just how much the last 60 years of predatory leadership in that region failed at human development and citizenship building. The whole Arab world package, with its artificially straight-line borders, was held together by oil and brute force. In the wreckage, people are falling back on the only identities they think might keep them safe: tribe and sect. It is a measure of how far things have unraveled that many Iraqi Sunnis prefer the lunatic Islamic State, or ISIS, than to fight and die for a pro-Iranian Shiite-led government in Baghdad. I have never seen it this bad. The Middle East analyst Simon Henderson captured the disintegration well in an essay in *The Wall Street Journal* in March, writing, "The violent chaos in Yemen isn't orderly enough to merit being called a civil war." The fundamentalist mindset seems to be taking hold everywhere. The Middle East Media Research Institute posted a video from last month of Sheikh Ahmad Al-Naqib, a lecturer on education at Mansoura University north of Cairo, criticizing ISIS, but he added, "There is no doubt that they are much better than the criminal Rafidites (Shiites), who kill the Sunnis because of their Sunni identity."

Otto Schärmer, an economist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who works with communities trapped in perpetual conflicts, defines the main features of the fundamentalist mindset by its opposites: What is the opposite of an open mind? he asks. "You are stuck in one truth." What is the opposite of an open heart? "You are stuck in one collective skin; everything is us versus them and, therefore, empathy for the other is impossible." And what is the opposite of an open will? "You are enslaved to old intentions that originate in the past

and not from the present, and so you cannot open up to any emerging new opportunities." If that zero-sum mindset continues to prevail, you can only weep for the future of this region when there is much less oil, many more kids and much less water. It will be a freak show. For now, I see only two ways coherent self-government can re-emerge in Libya, Iraq, Yemen and Syria: If an outside power totally occupies them, snuffs out their sectarian wars, suppresses the extremists and spends the next 50 years trying to get Iraqis, Syrians, Yemenis and Libyans to share power as equal citizens. Even that might not work. Anyway, it's not going to happen. The other is just wait for the fires to burn themselves out. The Lebanese civil war ended after 14 years by reconciliation-through-exhaustion. All sides accepted the principle of "no victor/no vanquished," and everyone got a piece of the pie. That's how Tunisia's factions managed to find stability: no victor/no vanquished.

We cannot effectively intervene in a region where so few share our goals. For instance, in Iraq and Syria, both Iran and Saudi Arabia have acted as "arsonists" and "firefighters." First, Iran pushed the Iraqi Shiite government to crush the Sunnis. When that produced the Islamic State, they sent pro-Iranian militias to put out the fire. Thanks a lot. And Saudi Arabia's long promotion of the puritanical, anti-pluralistic, anti-women, Wahhabi brand of Islam helped to shape the thinking of ISIS and the Sunni fundamentalists who joined them. The Saudis, too, are arsonists and firefighters. Indeed, ISIS is like a missile that got its guidance system from Saudi Arabia and its fuel from Iran. U.S. policy now should be "containment, plus amplification." Let's help those who manifest the will to contain ISIS, like Jordan, Lebanon, the United Arab Emirates and the Kurds in Iraq, and amplify any constructive things leaders in Yemen, Iraq, Libya or Syria are ready to do with their power, but we must not substitute our power for theirs. This has to be their fight for their future. If the fight against ISIS is not worth it to them, it surely can't be for us.

I was behind a car this weekend that had a Virginia license plate bearing the motto "Fight Terrorism." Sorry, but I don't think that should be on any state's license plate. We've spent more than a decade of lives and treasure trying to "fight terrorism" to fix a part of the world that can't be fixed from the outside. It has been a waste. I wish it had worked. The world would be better for it. But it didn't. And the beginning of wisdom is admitting that and stopping throwing good money after bad. We need to stop being the "United States of Fighting Terrorism." If Virginians need a license plate motto, how about: "Contain and Amplify Abroad. Build Virginia at Home." □



On Same-Sex Marriage, Catholics Are Leading the Way



FRANK BRUNI
© 2015 New York Times

Take a look at this list of countries: Belgium, Canada, Spain, Argentina, Portugal, Brazil, France, Uruguay, Luxembourg and Ireland. Name two things that they have in common. They don't share a continent, obviously. Or a language. But in all of them, the Roman Catholic Church has more adherents, at least nominally, than any other religious denomination does. And all of them belong to the vanguard of 20 nations that have decided to make same-sex marriage legal. In fact, countries with a Catholic majority or plurality make up half of those where two men or two women can now wed or will soon be able to. Ireland, obviously, is the freshest addition to the list. It's also, in some ways, the most remarkable one. It's the first country to approve same-sex marriage by a popular referendum. The margin wasn't even close. About 62 percent of voters embraced marriage equality. And they did so despite a past of great fealty to the Catholic Church's official teachings on, for example, contraception, which was outlawed in Ireland until 1980, and abortion, which remains illegal in most circumstances.

Irish voters nonetheless rejected the church's formal opposition

to same-sex marriage. This act of defiance was described, accurately, as an illustration of church leaders' loosening grip on the country.

But in falling out of line with the Vatican, Irish people are actually falling in line with their Catholic counterparts in other Western countries, including the United States.

They aren't sloughing off their Catholicism - not exactly, not entirely. An overwhelming majority of them still identify as Catholic. But they're incorporating religion into their lives in a manner less rooted in Rome. We journalists too often use "the Catholic Church" as a synonym for the pope, the cardinals and teachings that have the Vatican's stamp of approval.

But in Europe and the Americas in particular, the church is much more fluid than that. It harbors spiritually inclined people paying primary obeisance to their own consciences, their own senses of social justice. That impulse and tradition are as Catholic as any others.

Catholics in the United States appear to be more, not less, progressive about gay rights than Americans in general are. In an especially ambitious survey conducted over the course of 2014 by the Public Religion Research Institute, about 60 percent of Americans who called themselves Catholic said that they approved of same-sex marriage, versus about 30 percent who didn't. The spread among all respondents was 54 to 38, and the group that clearly stood in the way of same-sex marriage wasn't Catholics. It was evangelical Protestants.

And yet, interestingly, the qualms that certain public figures have about same-sex marriage are routinely explained - by the media, and sometimes by those people themselves - as ineluctable consequences of their Catholicism.

"We need to be stalwart supporters of traditional marriage," Jeb Bush, who converted to Catholicism as an adult, said during a recent TV interview.

"It's at the core of the Catholic faith."

Rick Santorum, Bobby Jindal, Chris Christie and Marco Rubio, among others, have cited their Catholic devotion as a barrier to embracing same-sex marriage. But seldom does anyone point out that this explanation puts these men in the minority, not majority, of Catholics in the United States. Their stances win them more political favor among Baptists than among Catholics.

That's because "Catholics" includes not just worshippers who attend Mass weekly and perhaps tilt in a more conservative direction but those who go less frequently and those for whom Catholicism is as much an ethnic as a religious identity.

For this large and diverse group in the United States and other Western countries, same-sex marriage has rapidly gained favor and Catholic leaders' expressions of protest, such as firing employees who marry same-sex partners or speak up for marriage equality, are becoming untenable.

Cognizant of that, Catholic bishops in Germany voted earlier this month to relax morality clauses in contracts with lay workers so that those who remarry after a divorce or enter into same-sex civil unions (same-sex marriage isn't yet legal there) needn't fear losing their jobs. Is this a sign that in Europe and the Americas, same-sex marriage could become analogous to divorce: something that Catholic leaders technically frown upon but don't bother to inveigh against all that much? I wonder, especially in light of comments by Diarmuid Martin, the archbishop of Dublin, after the Irish referendum. He noted "a growing gap between the culture of Ireland" and the church, which, he said, "needs to take a reality check." He meant that its leaders do, and they can turn not just to Ireland but to many other densely Roman Catholic countries to gauge the hearts and souls of Catholics today. □

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